



April 5, 2011

General Law Practice Group

Reply to Attn of:

TO: Distribution

FROM: Alternate Designated Agency Ethics Official

SUBJECT: Determination Regarding Attendance by NASA Employees at the
Armed Forces Foundation Congressional Gala on April 6, 2011

On April 6, 2011, the Armed Forces Foundation, a non-profit organization under 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, is hosting a Congressional Gala at the Ronald Reagan Building. There will be a reception at 6:30 followed by an awards dinner at 7:30 to honor wounded service members and those in the public and private sector who serve them.

I find that this event meets the requirements of a "widely attended gathering" as defined in 5 C.F.R. § 2635.204(g). Approximately 700 people will attend the dinner, including representatives of Congress, Federal agencies such as DoD and NASA, and industry. The estimated cost of all food and refreshments is \$95 per person. The Foundation seats its invitees and tries to have each wounded service member at a table with a mix of industry and government attendees.

I further determine that there is an Agency interest in having NASA personnel attend the event because it will further Agency programs and operations. Attendees will have an opportunity to exchange information regarding various NASA programs. Accordingly, NASA employees, whose duties do not substantially affect the Foundation or a majority of its members, including employees in non-career positions subject to the Ethics Pledge required by Executive Order 13490, may accept an invitation for free attendance to the event for themselves and an invited guest.

However, NASA employees whose duties may substantially affect the Foundation or a majority of its members, such as by way of procurement duties, should seek an individual determination pursuant to 5 C.F.R. § 2635.205(g)(3)(i) regarding participation in this event from their local ethics counselor.

In addition, we note that there will be a Silent Auction. NASA employees are reminded that, as Federal employees, they should not participate in the Silent Auction or other fundraising aspect of this event.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Adam F. Greenstone". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "A" and "G".

Adam F. Greenstone